GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3140
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2016
Research in Tribal Affairs
Ering Shri Ninong

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken any steps to encourage research and development in tribal studies/affairs in the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)
(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, a Central University has taken several steps to encourage research and development in tribal studies/ affairs in the country. The details of some of these are mentioned below:
(i) University has encouraged its faculty members to submit research project proposals on various aspects of tribal affairs e.g. herbal and traditional medicines, culture and languages, etc.
(ii) Faculty members of the University are studying the herbal and traditional medicines based on flora available in the vicinity of tribal areas. The traditional knowledge of Baiga tribes is also being studied extensively in the University. The Vice-Chancellor has initiative to establish a Medicinal Garden based on traditional tribal knowledge in the campus. This garden will not only conserve the medicinal plants but also provide skill training to tribal population for improved livelihood.
(iii) Similarly, University is running a centre of excellence on tribal languages. Various aspects of tribal scripts and languages are being taken care of by this centre.
(iv) Necessary steps have been taken to emphasize the various aspects of tribal culture and other issues through course curriculum.
Further, Ministry of Tribal Affairs extends financial assistance to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) set up by the State Government/ Union Territories, under the Scheme of "Grants-in-aid to TRIs" with the aim to preserve and promote tribal culture, heritage, arts and crafts through research and documentation.
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